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# HAMILTON & TERRILE, LLP

8911 North Capital of Texas Highway  
Westech Center Suite 3150  
Austin, Texas 78759  
512.338.9100 Telephone  
512.345.7225 Facsimile

September 24, 2002

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

OCT 01 2002

Technology Center 2100

Re: Applicant(s): Paul J. Murphy  
Assignee: Dell USA, L.P.  
Title: Engineering Process for Procuring Components/Peripherals  
Serial No.: 09/420,696 Filed: October 19, 1999  
Examiner: Jean B. Fleurantin Group Art Unit 2171  
Docket No.: DC-02028

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents in the above-identified application:

- (1) Return Receipt Postcard;
- (2) This Transmittal Letter; and
- (3) Response to Non-Final Office Action.



No additional fee is required.



The fee has been calculated as shown below:

## CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	Claims Remaining After <u>Amendment</u>		Highest No. Previously <u>Paid For</u>		Present <u>Extra</u>	<u>Rate</u>	Additional <u>Fee</u>
Total Claims	36	Minus	36	=	x	\$18	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims	4	Minus	4	=	x	\$84	\$ 0.00



The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 502264

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, Washington, D.C./20231, on September 24, 2002.

*[Signature]*

Attorney for Applicant(s)

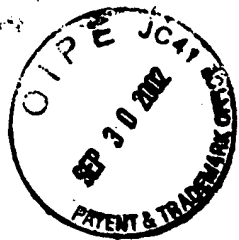
9/24/02

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

*[Signature]*

Stephen A. Terrile  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 32,946



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Assignee: Dell USA, L.P.  
Title: Engineering Process for Procuring Components/Peripherals  
Serial No.: 09/420,696 Filing Date: October 19, 1999  
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Docket No.: DC-02028

Austin, Texas  
September 24, 2002

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D. C. 20231

**RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office action dated July 8, 2002, having a shortened statutory period expiring October 8, 2002. Further examination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks set forth below.

**AMENDMENTS**

*In the Claims*

The following is a clean version of the entire set of pending claims. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.121(c)(1)(ii), Attachment A provides marked up versions of the claims containing the newly introduced changes.

- C1  
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1. (As Amended) A method for procuring a manufactured component through a plurality of development stages, the method comprising:  
providing a database for storing information related to procuring the manufactured component;  
sharing the database among a plurality of relevant parties, at least one of the relevant parties comprising an outside vendor;